(b) Rameswaram (India)-Thalaimannar (Sri Lanka) 7 GHz Analog Microwave Link was established long back in 1982. This link was disrupted since 1985 due to problems in Sri Lanka and it was re-established in Dec. 2003 by installing 7 GHz 34 Mb Microwave Link. The advantage of establishing direct links with Sri Lanka is to route Indo-Sri Lanka traffic directly. This is objective of SAARC council.

(c) Yes, Sir. Direct Telecom links with Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal are working. Their details are as below:-

Pakistan

(i) Attari-Lahore Analog Coaxial System (Working since long) No new link has been established recently.

Bangladesh

(i) Krishnagar-Chuadanga Analog 6 GHz MW (Working since long) No new link has been established recently.

Bhutan

(i) Hasimara-Phuntsholling STM-1 OFC (Established Recently)

(ii) Hasimara-Phuntsholling 2 GHz/Mb MW (Established few years back)

Nepal

(i) Raxaul-Birganj 140 Mb OFC (Established few years back)

(ii) Forbesganj-Biratnagar STM-1 OFC (Established few years back)

The following links have been Planned:-

Bangladesh

(i) Bongaon-Sarsha 7 GHz 34Mb DMW

(ii) Majdia-Chuadanga 7 GHz 34Mb DMW

Modernisation of Post Offices

1483. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices modernised in Karnataka during 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the Head Post Offices in Bangalore are functioning all seven days in a week; and

(c) if so, whether it would be extended to other Head Post Offices in other districts of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) In Karnataka, nine Post Offices were modernized during 2003-04 and ten Post Offices were modernized during 2004-05.

(b) Yes, Sir. In Bangalore General Post Office, Basavangudi Head Post Office and Jayanagar Head Post Office are functioning on all the seven days in a week. But on Sundays only restricted services are provided for specified time.

(c) Belgaum Head Post Office, Davangere Head Post Office, Hubli Head Post Office and Mysore Head Post Office are already working on all seven days, with limited services on Sundays. Extension of this facility to other districts will depend on the specific conditions of each case.

Misutilisation of Mobile Phones

1484. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the misutilisation of mobile phone by the anti-social people; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to check the racket?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Government is not aware of misutilization of mobile phones by the anti-social people.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.